

Senate Resolution 1396

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th, Thompson of the 33rd and Wiles of the 37th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia State Defense Force; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Defense Force (GSDF) is composed of outstanding
3 Americans serving the Department of Defense and serving fellow Georgians without
4 compensation or reward; and

5 WHEREAS, on February 2, 2010, the GSDF responded to a ten night operations mission to
6 provide medical and flight line assistance for the National Disaster Medical System Patient
7 Reception Area at Dobbins Air Reserve Base; and

8 WHEREAS, the objective of GSDF's important mission was a coordinated response with the
9 Department of Defense and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide
10 medical evacuation of seriously injured Haitian parolees to hospitals in the Atlanta area; and

11 WHEREAS, the GSDF assignment was to control flight line access/safety; to coordinate
12 patient offload procedures with the Department of Defense Medevac Crew, the Department
13 of Customs, and Border Protection Officers; and to coordinate the transportation to
14 designated Atlanta area hospitals; and

15 WHEREAS, this "Healing Hands" mission was completed with flawless precision,
16 dedication, professionalism, and compassion and helped save or substantially improve the
17 lives of 50 Haitian neighbors; and

18 WHEREAS, members of Operation Healing Hands 2010 included Adam Allgood, Carole
19 Anderson, Salih Baaith, William Barrett, Jerry Bradford, Jim Bryant, Wayne Carter, Christy
20 Cechman, Dan Clark, Thomas Cole, Boyd Cox, Marcus E. Davis, Allen Douglas, Edward
21 Faron, Robert Flavin, Terry Fretwell, Jaime Garcia, Carl Gentry, Leonard Goodelman, Brian
22 Griffith, Jim Grizzle, William Hale, Gary Hammonds, John Harvey, Michael Hatfield, Paul
23 Hildreth, Eric Horne, David Howell, Marc Jean-Pierre, William Jenkins, Arni Katz, Sang
24 Lau, Tom Liles, Jennifer Long, Matt Lorton, Guilford Matthews, Richard Mattson, Angela

25 McClendon, Ken Miller, Richard Pope, Jonathan Ray, Mike Ray, Deborah Redling,
26 Christopher S. Reed, Daniel S. Reed, Mary E. Reed, William Reiner, Eric Rusca, Ron
27 Russell, Robert Russo, David Schacher, Robert Scuffield, Mary Ann Shamatta, Earl
28 Simmons, Douglas Skinner, Stephen Smith, Hector Soto, Charles Surrusco, Nicole Tapley,
29 Lori Thompson, Demetri Vacalis, Carol Vaughan, Mark Vaughan, Jeffrey Ulmer, Dennis
30 Watts, Bill Weeks, Jerry Willard, Eddie Williams, Jeff Wilson, and Sheri Zahn; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding work of Operation
32 Helping Hands be appropriately recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 commend the Georgia State Defense Force for their humanitarian and life-saving efforts.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia State Defense Force
37 Commanding General, Brigadier General Jerry J. Bradford.